

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

May 22, 2023

The Honorable Administrator Regan
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20460

Dear Administrator Regan,

I write to bring your attention to the infrastructure deficiencies at the Cotter/Lincoln Park Superfund site, located south of Cañon City in Fremont County, Colorado. In 1984, the former uranium mill site and the surrounding neighborhood was declared a Superfund site. The site includes the Cotter Corporation (Cotter), its 2,600-acre uranium mill, and areas of mill-associated contamination.

On April 14, I joined EPA Region 8 Director, KC Becker, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) staff, and the local Superfund Community Advisory Group (CAG) to discuss the recent changes to the oversight of the cleanup of the Lincoln Park/Cotter Superfund site. In February, Colorado Legacy Land (CLL), the company charged with the cleanup of the Lincoln Park/Cotter Superfund site, told the EPA, the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE), and CAG that they would soon be insolvent and could not sustain operations. In March, the EPA and CDPHE said they would take over operations and the CDPHE would hire a contractor to assess the site's risk. I am grateful to see a swift response and the continuation of the cleanup of the Cotter/Lincoln Park Superfund site, however more work is still needed to protect the health and integrity of the communities that live alongside the Cotter/Lincoln Park Superfund site.

I write to respectfully ask that the EPA invest in needed upgrades to the surrounding infrastructure around the Cotter/Lincoln Park Superfund site. The EPA should install clearly marked and visible signs indicating a Superfund site or radioactive contamination around Cotter Mill. While it is my understanding that the EPA cannot require landowners to install signage, installing visible signage to protect the health and well-being of our communities that neighbor the Superfund site is a necessary investment that would demonstrate an abundance of caution. The EPA should work diligently to find a way to install the appropriate and visible signs.

Additionally, those visiting the Superfund site clearly can see the fencing is in grave need of improvement. I am requesting that the EPA install new fencing surrounding the CLL owned property. I would also like to respectfully request that the EPA seek the deployment of air quality and radon level monitoring of air and water around the Cotter/Lincoln Park Superfund site. I, along with members of CAG, were rightly concerned about the risk of toxic airborne substances that the Superfund site poses to the surrounding community.

Thank you for giving your full and fair consideration in accordance with all applicable rules, regulations, laws, and guidelines.

Sincerely,



Brittany Pettersen
Member of Congress